

Message Text

SECRET

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43

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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R 251300Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7968

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

S E C R E T CAIRO 5526

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: BTRA

SUBJ: BOEING 707 AIRCRAFT FOR PRESIDENT SADAT

REF: ATHENS 4857(NOTAL)

1. PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING TO CHARLES T. THUM, PRESIDENT,
LOCKHEED AIRCRAFT SERVICE CO., ONTARIO, CALIFORNIA, FORM
AMBASSADOR.

2. QUOTE. I HAVE RECEIVED YOUR MESSATE, SENT
THROUGH THE LOCKHEED REPRESENTATIVE IN ATHENS, R.K. BROWN,
ABOUT THE EGYPTIAN VIP AIRCRAFT FOR PRESIDENT SADAT. I
RECALL VERY WELL YOUR VIST AND OUR DISCUSSION ON THE
SUBJECT. I HAVE NOT PERSONALLY BEEN INVOLVED IN THE
MATTER FOR THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS, BUT UNDERSTAND
THAT THE EGYPTIAN AUTHORITIES--SPECIFICALLY DR. ASHRAF
MARWAN AND HIS COLLEAGUES--HAVE BEEN CONSIDERING HOW
TO PROCEED. I WAS NOT AWARE THAT COLLINS OR ANY OTHER
FIRM HAD SUBMITTED A BID ON THE VIP AIRCRAFT, BUT IT
COMES AS NO SURPRISE THAT THE EGYPTIANS ARE SHOPPING
AROUND TO GET THE BEST PRICE. NOR AM I AWARE OF ANY
USG INFLUENCE ON THE EGYPTIANS TO CONCLUDE A CONTRACT
WITH ONE OR THE OTHER FIRM. THIS EMBASSY IS DEDICATED
TO PUSHING AMERICAN GOODS AND SERVICES, BUT THE DECISIONS
ON
WHERE, WHAT AND WHEN TO BUY MUST BE MADE ENTIRELY

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BY THE EGYPTIAN AUTHORITIES.

3 I AM CONFIDENT THAT LOCKHEED HAS ACTED IN GOOD FAITH, AND CAN ONLY REITERATE--CATEGORICALLY--THAT NO MEMBER OF THIS EMBASSY SOUGHT TO INFLUENCE THE DECISION OF THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER. THIS EMBASSY CONTINUES TO STAND READY TO BE OF ALL APPROPRIATE ASSISTANCE TO YOU AND ALL OTHER AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN. UNQUOTE

4. FOR ATHENS: WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR REPEATING REFTEL TO DEPARTMENT FOR ITS INFO. I ALSO HAVE NO OBJECTION TO YOUR PASSING ABOVE MESSAGE TO LOCKHEED REP BROWN FOR HIS INFO.
EILTS

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ONTARIO, CALIFORNIA.

SECRET

NNN

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